

COTTON GROWERS' ADDRESS.

How to Avoid the Sad Lot of the Bankrupt and Pauper.

To the Cotton Growers of South Carolina: The special committee appointed at the Convention of the Cotton Growers' Union of the State, held in Columbia on the 29th instant, desire to say that the exceeding low prices of cotton at the present, with the indications of lower prices still in the future, painfully admonish us that we have reached a crisis in the history of the industry. Prices to-day are not only far lower than they have previously been at this season of the year, but lower than they have been for fifty years, and the months of November, December, January and February are selling on the Liverpool market at figures lower than during the great depression of the '40's, and even at these figures English agents are advising the spinners of Great Britain to withhold their purchases upon assurances that prices will soon be fifty points lower. In consideration of these conditions we desire to call the attention, not only of the cotton growers, but of every business avocation in the cotton belt, to the ominous fact that for the want of ordinary tact and foresight we are allowing this great element of wealth to pass beyond our limits for a mere song; that our birthright is going for a mess of pottage, and our great natural advantages sacrificed with the careless indifference with which a drunkard flings from his lap his treasures. Foreign speculators and manufacturers, fully aware that the staple is passing out of the hands of the growers at figures far below the cost of production, nevertheless keep aloof from the market to allow the maturing obligations of the farmers to force the crop out of their hands for a mere pittance. Defiantly claiming to command the situation, they boldly propose to avail themselves of conditions which could be remedied by a combination of the growers and the business element of the cotton belt, to rob the farmers, not only of the profits of their year's labor, but of nearly one-half of the value of ten million bales of cotton, and thereby impoverish the most favored section of the globe. Blessed with the natural advantages of a climate and soil which alone can produce this great staple in volume and quality sufficient for the demands of the world, we should be the most prosperous people on the earth. Efficient organization which would control the volume of production and regulate its marketing would make these advantages a mine of wealth.

But with every cotton grower separately striving to increase his acreage and multiply his bales, first above and then below the cost of production; with a vicious financial system that causes the claims of the local merchant and banker to force the entire crop on the market in four months, these natural advantages are distorted into a blight and a curse, and the cotton grower is made to become the prey to the speculator and the manufacturer. Never was there a situation which more peremptorily challenged the wisdom of economic statesmanship, or presented a more inviting, nay a more imperative, field for organization. Never was there an exigency which would more fully justify it. Yet we are told that the cotton growers are an ignorant class, devoid of leadership and without the power of organization, that it is impossible to organize five hundred thousand cotton growers. Why even the lower animals will rally for the purpose of self-protection. Can it be possible that the cotton growers constitute the only element of the animal kingdom who cannot unite? That they are so devoid of manhood, intelligence and foresight that the strongest incentives, independence, competency, the welfare of their section and the maintenance of their families, cannot induce them to unite? If it be true that as a class they are so devoid of spirit, so ignorant, supine and helpless that the most direct and forceful appeals to sentiments most calculated to stir the human heart cannot induce them to organize for purposes of mutual protection and self-defence, then truly we should hear no more complaints of the aggressions of trusts and combinations, but as a class we should meekly accept the law of nature which decrees that the improvident, the careless and the weak shall serve the vigilant, the active and the strong. Then should we join in the refrain of the other avocations:

I hold the farmer is a simple tool
Born to labor and not to rule.
And I will do unto him that which I see
Will bring the most money to mine and to me.

Prompt and concerted action on the part of the cotton growers would change present conditions in ninety days. Thorough and complete organization, which would enable them to act as a unit, under wise and discreet guidance, would place them in command of the situation in three months, and change their condition from one

of bankruptcy and distress to one of competency and profit. By what means could organization attain these most desirable ends? Adopt the recommendations of the National Cotton Growers' Union, organize promptly, hold all the cotton on hand, and firmly bind ourselves to reduce this year's average 50 per cent. the ensuing year. No business man of any intelligence and experience will deny the soundness of this proposition, that as soon as effective measures of this nature are taken and become a certainty cotton will advance and you can borrow more money on it than it is worth to-day, because it will become a security anticipating in value. The visible supply is fifteen hundred thousand bales. The invisible supply or stock at the mills is estimated at five hundred thousand bales. This would make the stock outside of the growers' hands two million bales. To be certain not to underestimate the amount beyond control of the growers, say it is twenty-four hundred thousand bales. The consumption ranges between eight hundred thousand bales and one million bales per month. Then if the farmers would hold their cotton from the market the surplus would be entirely consumed in three months, and the situation would be entirely changed. Instead of the farmers allowing the speculators and manufacturers to fix the price by paying whatever they choose, which they will do if the cotton is thrown on the market, the farmers, with all the markets bare of cotton and in full possession of the supply, will be in command of the situation, with power to fix the price, and the manufacturer will have to pay their price or shut down his mill. A reduction of 50 per cent. in next year's acreage would insure such a diminution of the supply and make cotton so scarce and competition among the manufacturers so active as to bring about a rapid and steady rise. That this rise would be a certainty we only have to refer to the war of secession. McHenry in his History of the Cotton Trades, page 51: "In ordinary times there is always two years' supply of cotton in the crude and manufactured state at the consuming points. At the fall of Fort Sumter there was a sufficiency for three years' requirements." With the supply greater than in proportion than now, as soon as production was contracted we note the following extraordinary rise in price: It averaged in 1860, 11 cents; in 1861, 13 cents; in 1862, 31 cents; in 1863, 67 cents; in 1864, \$1.01. But it is argued any contraction of production in the South to raise prices would stimulate foreign competition. If \$1 per pound could not stimulate injurious foreign competition in the '60's, eight and ten cents cannot do it now. On this point Ellison says, in his History of the Cotton Trade, Page 141-142: "For some years prior to the outbreak of the civil war it had been foreseen that, sooner or later, a serious labor disturbance at the South was inevitable; and in view of the calamity which such an event would bring upon Lancashire every effort was made to discover new sources of cotton supply. But although the powerful association formed for the promotion of this end searched every nook and corner of the cotton zone, and sent seed to every one in the four continents willing to experiment, they entirely failed to accomplish the laudable object they had in view." Mr. Ellison further tells us that while the enormously high famine prices during the war did considerably increase foreign shipments of cotton, they declined almost to their normal level when the price receded to 15 cents or 30 cents per pound.

If no action is taken and this crop is forced on the market as usual in the next four months at present and probably lower prices, it will not pay the cost of production, the country will be stripped of means and every business interest must suffer. If there should be no effective organization to regulate the acreage the industry will be but an illustration of the survival of the fittest; those who can raise it cheapest and those of us who cannot compete must accept the hopeless and cheerless lot of the bankrupt and pauper.

J. C. Wilborn, President C. G. W. S. C.
L. W. Youmans, Vice President N. C. G. W.

— The inhabitants of the Andaman Islands are said to be smallest race of people in the world. The average height of a full-grown Andaman is less than 4 feet, and the anthropological experts who recently visited them found but few that weighed over 75 pounds.
— Greenville county has once more exemplified its former record on prohibition by sending three members to the Legislature who favor this method of dealing with the liquor question.
— There are 20 prisoners in jail and 21 on the chain gang in Aiken county

Five Miles Above the Earth.

London, Sept. 23.—The balloon ascent made on Thursday at the Crystal Palace by Stanley Spencer, the well-known aeronautic expert, and Dr. Bersen, the Berlin scientist, has aroused great interest in scientific circles. Simultaneously an ascent was made in Berlin, with a view to comparing observations taken of the density of the atmosphere at different altitudes there with similar observations over London.

Stanley Spencer narrated his experiences to the World correspondent as follows:

"When we reached 23,000 feet we had a magnificent view. We had drifted over Essex and could trace the whole southeast coast of England and the coast of France for a hundred miles with absolute distinctness. The English Channel was a pale glare dotted with ships, looking like black spots. A little beyond us was the great gaping mouth of the Thames, while the North Sea stretched away in far expanse. Rivers and estuaries on the English coast were distinctly traceable as in a mammoth map.

"At 23,000 feet I threw out more ballast, and we rose to 25,000, at which altitude the rarefaction of the atmosphere began to tell on us. We had the utmost difficulty in breathing. Prof. Bersen was livid and gasping; I was the same. We had a large cylinder of compressed oxygen gas strapped to the side of the car, with two tubes, each terminating in a face mask. We each took a mask and breathed the pure oxygen, and were instantly restored. It was a delightful experience, this sudden relief from deathly oppression.

"The balloon remained stationary at 25,000 feet; so more ballast was thrown out until we reached the enormous altitude of 27,000 feet. At that height enough had been accomplished; so we descended slowly and steadily to 25,000 feet. Then the speed increased, and the balloon began to rush through the air with frightful velocity, dropping 1,000 feet in fifteen seconds. I had thrown out ballast fast to stop her, and when we had fallen 10,000 feet at this rate our downward course was checked by a current of warm air, which caused the balloon almost to take the form of a parachute, thus checking its descent.

"The sand we had thrown out now overtook us, rattling on the balloon in a most startling and unexpected manner.

"The alterations of temperature we underwent were extraordinary. We started in a blazing sun with the thermometer at 90 in the shade; at 27,500 feet we registered 61 degrees frost. In spite of our thick flannels and the unclouded sunshine, while people five miles below us were sweltering in tropical heat we were shivering violently. Our metal oxygen tubes were thickly coated with ice.
"We eventually reached the ground in safety, having been up ninety minutes."
"Why did you not try to break the record by completing the other 1,500 feet?" Mr. Spencer was asked.
"That would have been too dangerous," he answered. "We should have had to sacrifice our ballast and would have none left to check our descent. Besides, although Coxwell and Glaisher say they attained 29,000 feet in 1862, I am inclined to doubt the authenticity of that record. We were nearly dead at 27,500 feet.

"As to the scientific results, neither I nor Dr. Bersen can say anything until comparison has been made with the results of the Berlin ascent. It was the most exciting and altogether delightful ascent I have ever made."

Those terrible dizzy spells to which women are subject are due nine times in ten to some weakness or unhealthy condition of the

reorganization of the volunteer force which has not been ordered mustered out, and designated as an army of occupation for Cuba; provides for the chief of the army in Porto Rico, and establishes a reserve to relieve the troops in the various islands, which will be occupied by the United States. It is known that the troops of the 10th corps, now under Gen. Lee, will be designated to go to Cuba, and that troops from the camps at Lexington, Knoxville and Middletown, will be selected for Cuban duty. It is understood that Gen. Miles deals only with organizations such as corps, divisions, brigades and regiments. The matter of commanding and staff officers will be settled after the mustering out of general and staff officers had been determined.

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They Took The Hint.

A well known clergyman, while preaching some time ago in a strange church, was much annoyed by persons talking and giggling. He paused, looked sternly at the disturbers, and said: "I am always afraid to reprove those who misbehave in church. In the early part of my ministry I once made a great mistake. As I was preaching a young man who sat before me was constantly laughing, talking and making uncouth grimaces. I stopped and administered a severe rebuke. After the close of the service one of the church officials approached me, and said: 'Sir, you made a great mistake. That young man you reprovied is an idiot.' Since then I have always been afraid to reprove those who misbehave themselves in church lest I should repeat that mistake and reprove another idiot." During the rest of the service there was good order.

A Poor Worker.

No man or woman can work well, mentally or physically, nor perform effective service of any kind who is burdened with a torpid liver. Constipation and deficient secretion of bile have clogged up the organs of the body so that they cannot keep up the energy to the proper standard, hence, weariness, headaches, depression, feeble appetite result. All this can be changed with a few doses of Prickly Ash Bitters. It cleanses the system thoroughly, flushes the excretory canals, drives out impurities, imparts new life to the vital organs and re-establishes healthy functional activity, which brings with it energy, strength, vigor of body and brain and cheerful spirits. Sold by Evans Pharmacy.

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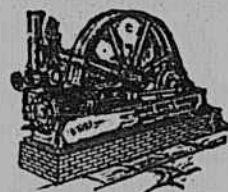
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Which give your house and farm pure spring water at little cost where water is within reasonable distance. We are making a great success of our Rams, and charge nothing for information.

SULLIVAN HARDWARE CO.

Could Not Be Returned.

This is one of the yarns of childhood.
Six-year-old Tommie was sent by his eldest sister to the corner grocery to buy a pound of lump sugar. He played allies on his way to the store, and by the time he arrived there he had forgotten what kind of sugar he was sent for. So he took home a pound of the granulated article. His sister sent him back to the store to get lump sugar. After the proprietor of the grocery shop had made the change for the little lad, he engaged Tommy in conversation.

"Tommie," said he, "I understand there is a new member of your family."

"Yes, sir," replied the kid, "I've got a little brother."

"Well, how do you like that, hey?" inquired the groceryman.

"Don't like it at all," said Tommie.

"Rather have a little sister?"

"Then why don't you change him, Tommie?"

"Well, we would if we could, but I don't suppose we can. You see, we have used him four days now."—*Washington Star.*

Admiral Dewey's expenditure in powder and shell to sink the Spanish fleet at Manila, according to his own official report, was about \$45,000. The cost for the same item in disposing of Admiral Cervera's fleet off Santiago is between \$90,000 and \$100,000. Experts regard the figures in both cases as surprisingly low.

A clever swindler has been selling hand-painted English sparrows in the suburbs of Boston as canaries.

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I am agent for the BRENNAN CANE MILL (self-rolling) and EVAPORATORS and FURNACES. To save money buy a Cane Mill and make your own molasses.

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